GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2413
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008
DEPLOYMENT OF ARMY PERSONNEL IN INSURGENCY AFFECTED STATES
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether prolonged deployment of the Army in insurgency affected States has diluted the focus on its primary role of defending the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether Army has recommended for creation of a separate specialized force for internal security; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): While the primary role of the Army is to defend the territorial integrity of the nation against external aggression,counter insurgency operations as well as security against internal threats form part of its secondary role. Army, therefore, is adequately structured and trained to take on both the challenges.Efforts are made to keep such deployments minimal based on the principle of engaging Army as an instrument of last resort.

(c) & (d): Army has not recommended creation of any separate specialized force for Internal Security.